



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Emeryville, CA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Emeryville was selected to receive an assessment grant. Emeryville (population 7,300) is a small community located on the east side of San Francisco Bay, immediately north of Oakland. Many heavy industries established themselves in Emeryville and other East Bay communities because of the area's access to shipping and rail lines. Emeryville's economy declined significantly following the exodus of industry and related jobs in the 1970s. Today, the city is burdened with abandoned and potentially contaminated properties that discourage investment and detract from the quality of life. Emeryville's median household income is nearly 19 percent lower than that of Alameda County. The city's unemployment and poverty rates are higher than county averages, and the



Assessment Grant

**New
2003**

*\$350,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum*

EPA has selected the City of Emeryville for a brownfields assessment grant. The city intends to use grant funds to conduct environmental site assessments at several properties, some of which are potentially contaminated with petroleum and are located in its most disadvantaged neighborhoods. Grant funds also will be used for redevelopment planning and community involvement and outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team
415-972-3188
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/>

Grant Recipient: City of Emeryville, CA
510-596-4356

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Emeryville has received brownfields funding for assessment and revolving loan fund grants.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

percentage of minorities living in the lowest income areas is more than double the county average. Grant funds will enable the city to assess and plan for the cleanup of several sites located in the most disadvantaged census tracts. The city hopes to redevelop these sites into open space, a community center, and an intermodal transit center.